

JUSTIFICATION FOR SOLE SOURCE ACQUISITION
Purchase of an Inverted Metallurgical Microscope (SEM)

NASA, John F. Kennedy Space Center, will negotiate with Carl Zeiss Microimaging, Inc., One Ziess Drive, Thornwood, NY 10594; for a Zeiss Axio Observer Z1m inverted metallurgical microscope. The total estimated cost is \$88k including shipping.

Pursuant to FAR 13.106-1(b) and 13.106-3(b) (3) (i), the acquisition of the referenced inverted metallurgical microscope is determined to be available from only one source. Competition is impractical for the following reasons:

The procurement replaces an existing 10 year old inverted metallurgical microscope. Carl Zeiss Microimaging, Inc. is the original equipment manufacturer of the current inverted metallurgical microscope currently in use. Interchangeable parts from the current microscope as well as the current on-hand inventory of previously purchased Zeiss lenses can be used in conjunction with the new microscope to reduce the overall cost of the system. Market research utilizing the internet and discussions with other vendors indicate that another system cannot be purchased with the same functionality for a comparable price.

Based upon the above, I hereby determine only one source reasonably available for this acquisition. I certify that the supporting data presented in this justification are accurate and complete.



Tyrone J Frey
Contracting Officer

5/12/09

Date